

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
LAKE CHARLES DIVISION**

The State of LOUISIANA,  
By and through its Attorney General,  
Elizabeth B. Murrill; et al.,

PLAINTIFFS,

v.

Joseph R. BIDEN, Jr. in his official capacity as  
President of the United States; et al.,

DEFENDANTS.

Civil Action No. 2:24-cv-00406-JDC-TPL

Judge James D. Cain, Jr.  
Magistrate Judge Thomas P. LeBlanc

**Joint Motion to Extend Time to Answer and Set Schedule**

The parties jointly move for additional time for Defendants to file an answer and for the Court to enter the attached order and adopt the schedule proposed in this motion. The parties respectfully stipulate as follows:

1. On March 21, 2024, the State of Louisiana, along with the States of Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming, filed a lawsuit against Defendants challenging the lawfulness of an alleged January 26, 2024 decision. ECF No. 1.

2. On March 28, 2024, Plaintiffs filed a motion for a stay under 5 U.S.C. § 705 or a preliminary injunction. ECF No. 13. On May 6, 2024, Defendants filed an opposition and a motion to dismiss. ECF No. 26.

3. The Court held a hearing on the motions on June 20, 2024. ECF No. 70. On July 1, 2024, the Court granted Plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction and denied Defendants' motion to dismiss (except as to a few claims against one defendant). ECF Nos. 72–73.

4. Defendants would like an extension of their deadline to file their answer until 14 days after the expiration of their deadline to file an appeal (September 10, 2024). Their answer is currently due on July 15, 2024.

5. Defendants have agreed that the extension of an answer deadline will not delay production of the Administrative Record.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, they have agreed to produce the Administrative Record on or before September 10, 2024.

6. The parties have agreed to have another meet-and-confer call in September to discuss whether additional briefing deadlines should be set depending on whether Defendants appeal the Court's recent order. Parties will then submit a status report to the Court or a motion for a new scheduling order.

7. Accordingly, the parties have negotiated the following schedule:

Event	Deadline
Defendants' Answer	September 10, 2024
Defendants Produce the Administrative Record to Plaintiffs and File the Table of Contents with the Court	September 10, 2024
Status Report or Motion for Scheduling Order	September 30, 2024

8. The parties believe the foregoing schedule would promote efficiency and preserve resources.

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<sup>1</sup> By agreeing to file an administrative record, the Department of Energy does not concede that it took final agency action, but instead acknowledges the Court's preliminary ruling to the contrary.

Dated: July 12, 2024

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**CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE**

Pursuant to Local Rule 7.4.1, I hereby certify that counsel had a meet-and-confer call on July 12, 2024. In subsequent email exchanges, Defendants' counsel informed me that Defendants consent and join the foregoing motion.

/s/ Autumn Hamit Patterson  
Autumn Hamit Patterson

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on July 12, 2024, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to all CM/ECF participating attorneys.

/s/ Autumn Hamit Patterson  
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